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6 Pages

PHOTOGRAPHIC INTERPRETATION REPORT

# SASYKTAU MISSILE-LAUNCH FACILITY USSR

DECLASS REVIEW by NIMA/DOD





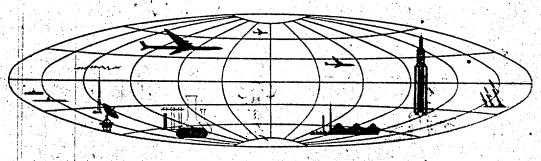
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### SASYKTAU MISSILE-LAUNCH FACILITY, USSR

### INTRODUCTION

This report presents a detailed analysis of the missile-launch activity at 47-32N 49-25E (computed geographic coordinates), approximately 5 nautical miles (nm) south-southwest of Sasyktau and 57 nm east-northeast of Kordon SAM Training Center (Figure 1). The installation is in a remote desert region north of the Caspian Sea where the only access is by unimproved trails. No major overland transportation facilities serve it; the nearest known landing strip within a 60-nm radius is at Kordon, and the nearest rail line is approximately 55 nm south of the installation. Permanent support facilities for housing, storage, and administrative functions are severely limited and no evidence of temporary facilities such as tent camps are discernible on photography through

#### DESCRIPTION

The installation was not present in

there was a

gradual increase in the facilities at the installation as indicated on Figure 2.

The installation consists of 2 probably hardsurfaced loop roads connected by a straight east-west road, and several structures which are positioned along or near the basic road pattern (Figures 2 and 3). At the western loop road, there are 3 launch positions feet apart. Two, and probably all three positions are connected by linear scars which are prob-

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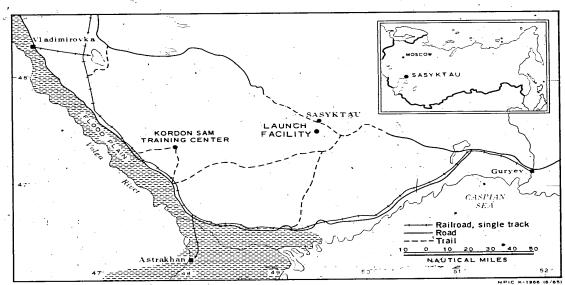


FIGURE 1. LOCATION OF THE SASYKIAU MISSILE-LAUNCH FACILITY, USSR.

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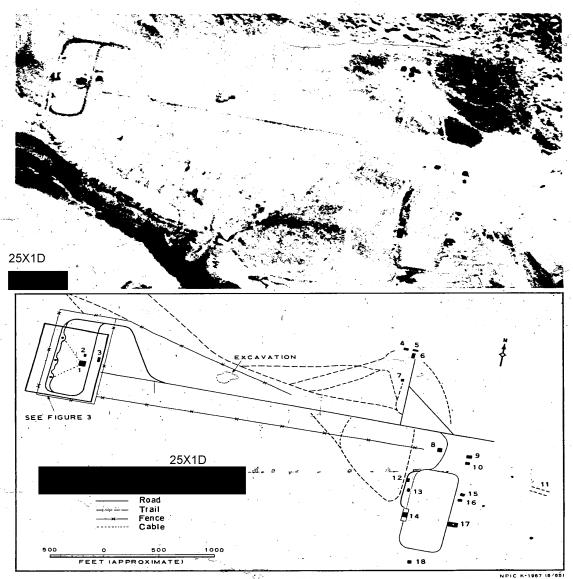


FIGURE 2. THE SASYKTAU MISSILE LAUNCH FACILITY, USSR.

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ably cable connections to a building (Item 1), 65 by 40 by 15 feet high, to the east, inside the loop (Item numbers are keyed to the list below and Figures 2 and 3). The building is the probable control center for the 3 launch positions. A 20 by 20 foot structure (Item 2) is just north of the probable control building. A third building (Item 3), 55 by 30 by 15 feet high, is across the loop road, to the northeast of the probable control building. The entire loop road and the 3 buildings are within a single security fence which measures approximately 975 by 530 feet.

The eastern loop road is 3,300 feet southeast of the western loop road and, although it has no launch positions, it widens on the west side to provide a hardstand area approximately 175 by 50 feet. A probable drive-through building (Item 14), 60 by 50 by 20 feet high, may be used as a missile-checkout building.

The following is a descriptive listing, with date first observed, of the structures within the Sasyktau Facility (Item numbers are keyed to Figures 2 and 3).

- Probable control building 65 by 40 by 15 feet high, probably flat-roofed
- 2 Unidentified structure 20 by 20 feet 25X1D
- 3 Support building 55 by 30 by 15 feet high, probably gable-roofed 25X1D
- 4 Support building 40 by 30 by 10 feet high, probably gable-roofed 25X1D
- 5 Support building 75 by 25 feet, probably gable-roofed 25X1D
- 6 Support building 150 by 40 feet, probably flat-roofed 25X1D
  7 Unidentified structure 20 by 15 feet
- 25X1D 8 Support building 35 by 20 feet, roof con-
- 8 Support building 35 by 20 feet, roof configuration undetermined 25X1D

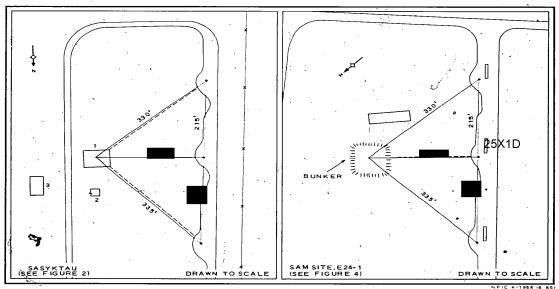


FIGURE 3. LAYOUT OF THE WESTERN LOOP ROAD OF THE SASYKTAU MISSILE-LAUNCH FACILITY AND PART OF THE MOSCOW SAM SITE E24-1.

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gable-roofed

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Support building 45 by 20 by 10 feet, probprobably flat-roofed with an unidentified ably gable-roofed 25X1D object positioned on the roof Support building 25 by 20 feet, roof con-18 Unidentified structure 25 by 15 feet figuration undetermined \_\_ 25X1D ---Two parallel linear scars approximately DISCUSSION 25X1D 150 feet in length, 50 feet apart Support building 45 by 25 feet, roof con-The mensural data and configuration of the 25X1D figuration undetermined Unidentified structure approximately 25 by 20 feet 25X1D Probable drive-through building 60 by 50 by 20 feet high, flat-roofed building is situated on a hardstand approximately 175 by 50 feet. Support building 35 by 25 by 10 feet high, launch position separation of probably gable-roofed ( 16. Support building 30 by 20 feet, probably

25X1D

Support building 85 by 40 by 15 feet high,

25X1D

Sasyktau Facility revealed some similarities to a segment of the SA-1 SAM sites which are deployed in the Moscow area. Mensural data for both Sasyktau and Moscow SAM Site E24-1, which was selected for comparison, revealed that separation of launch positions at Sasyktau, feet, was identical to the average feet at Site E24-1 (Figures 3 and 4). Figure 3, which portrays a segment of the launch area of Site E24-1 and the Sasyktau Facility with dimensions, shows that the control building at

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this facility is in the same relative location as the control bunkers of the SA-1 SAM sites at Moscow. Another dimensional similarity exists between the control building, 65 by 40 feet, at Sasyktau and the bunkers at Site E24-1, which have average dimensions of 60 by 35 feet.

These similarities would indicate that the Soviets have constructed a facility that is patterned after a segment of an SA-1 launch area and that the construction of the facility began in 11 years after the initial deployment of SA-1 SAM sites in the Moscow area. After having ascertained that the facility does resemble a segment of an SA-1 SAM site; the primary orientation of the 3 launch positions based on the east-west access road was computed to be degrees. Missiles fired along this azimuth would pass approximately 10 nm north of the Kordon SAM Training Center and would have traveled a distance of approximately 56 nm. A continuation of the missile beyond this point along the orientation would place it approximately 30 nm south of the facilities of the Kapustin Yar Vladimirovka Missile Test Center (KY/VMTC) at a distance of approximately 135 nm. A secondary azimuth based on the orientation of a line connecting the 3 launch positions was computed as being Missiles fired along this azimuth would intersect most of the surface-to-surface missile (SSM) trajectories from the KY/VMTC at a point approximately 125 nm from KY/VMTC at a distance approximately 50 nm north of Sasyktau. 1 At this intersection, most of the SSMs from KY VMTC are ascending and have not yet reached their apogees. As of no electronic facilities had been identified at Sasyktau, which would presumably preclude its use for firings against SSM warheads or other target vehicles.

The exact construction status of the facility cannot be determined at this time. There has been no increase in the components of the facility during the winter period extending from

even though there was indication of snow removal on the coverage of

The location of the Sasyktau Facility in an inaccessible and isolated area and the limited support facilities present might indicate that the installation may be used as a sensitive missile research and development facility.

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REFERENCES

PHOTOGRAPHY

MAPS AND CHARTS

USAF. Operational Navagation Chart. F-4, 1st ed. Rev. scale 1:1,000,000 (UNCLASSIFIED)

RELATED DOCUMENT

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REQUIREMENT

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